

The Roanoke News

Magazine Section

SEVENTIETH YEAR

WELDON, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1936

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart
National Press Building Washington, D. C.

Washington. — Many observers around Washington lately have noticed something of a change in President Roosevelt's attitude since the election which so overwhelmingly returned him to office. From most any standpoint you assume, you will note, a more critical attitude on the part of the President concerning the schemes advanced by his advisers. He is apparently examining the suggestions, the proposals and programs laid before him much more cautiously and carefully than was his record during the past three years.

is more co-ordination among its own people. . . . I referred above to the necessity for co-ordination among governmental departments as to policies and that leads into the long-time need for actual reorganization of the physical structure known as the federal government. There are certain signs emerging from the seething now occurring, as is usual, in advance of a congressional session that indicate President Roosevelt may be making a definite move towards this much needed reorganization.

It is highly important that it be done. I think everyone agrees with that statement. Mr. Roosevelt is in a position to do it. He is one of the few Presidents of recent years who has been in a position to do it. He is in that position because of the tremendous majority his party possesses in house and senate and I think it can be said unequivocally, if Mr. Roosevelt cannot do it or does not do it, it never will be done.

It goes without saying that there are scores of unnecessary agencies now in existence, most of them the children of the New Deal. There is overlapping; there is conflict of jurisdiction and there is a superabundance of ideas from every source that affect or influence operations of other agencies. It is a tangled skein and the untangling is going to be a difficult job. The whole setup is shot through with politics and politicians and to decapitate political patronage is a man-sized job. The job now may be made even worse in this regard by the fact that never in history have there been so many shades of opinion in congress. The natural result of this sort of thing is that the various groups of blocs insist on carrying out particular pet schemes and those pet schemes nearly always mean a new governmental bureau, commission or what have you.

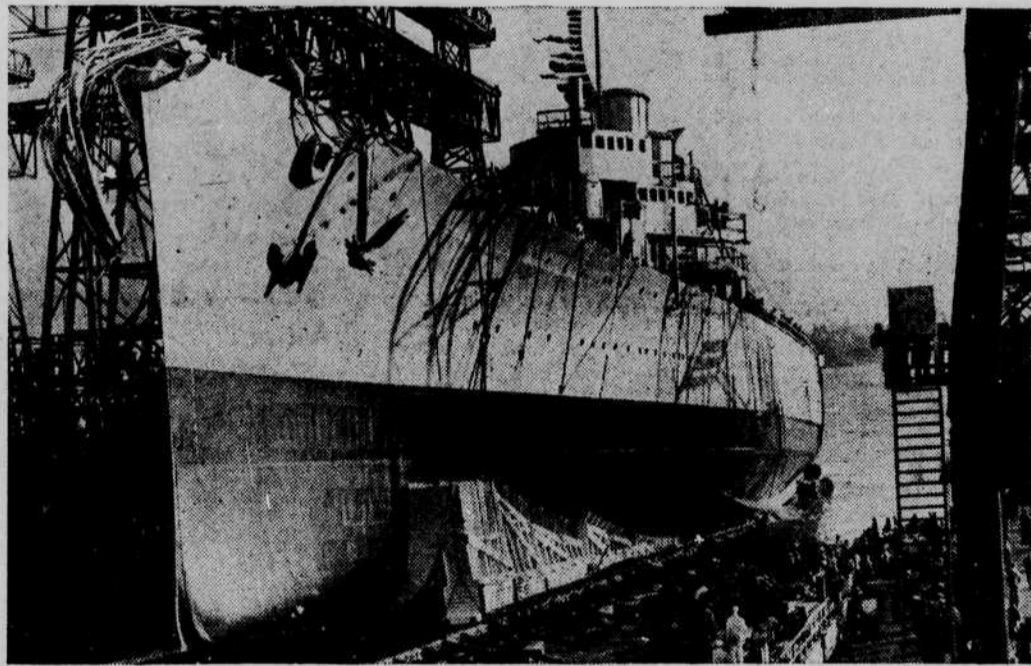
As far as present conditions have developed, none can foretell exactly what Mr. Roosevelt has in mind concerning the new government structure. It goes without saying, of course, that the major departments, each headed by a cabinet officer, will constitute the basic framework of whatever co-ordination or consolidation Mr. Roosevelt eventually proposes. But it is outside of this framework where the real co-ordination is needed. It is among the countless alphabetical soup agencies that the pruning knife and the axe must be wielded with utter abandon. A lot of needless and, in many cases, irresponsible government policies are worked out here.

Such co-ordination and consolidation as the President attempts, therefore, can accomplish a very great deal in the way of budgetary reforms and relief for the taxpayers if the job is undertaken seriously. Indeed, as the situation now shapes up, elimination of about 50 per cent of these so-called emergency agencies and complete eradication of their parasitic policies constitute an important approach to a balancing of the Treasury budget.

Since this is a fact, it must be recognized that the proposed consolidation movement has obstacles outside of political patronage. Politicians enjoy spending money and when they see various of their pet bureaus or commissions going the way of all flesh, they naturally will be frightened and it will take all of the strength Mr. Roosevelt possesses to keep them in line when they realize that money is being taken out from under their very noses. Nevertheless, Mr. Roosevelt can reorganize the government. He has 329 Democratic representatives in the house and 75 Democratic senators. Against this legislative strength of the party in power are 89 Republican representatives and 17 Republican senators, minus three or four senators who wear the Republican label but who are New Dealers at heart.

If Mr. Roosevelt is serious about this government reorganization and if he wants to force it through, I have no doubt at all that he can gain public support for his program. I have no doubt at all that if he were to go on the radio and deliver an address about the plan, there would be such a deluge of mail to representatives and senators from their constituents that they would not dare oppose the scheme.

Fifth "Philadelphia" Is Launched for U. S. Navy



The Philadelphia navy yard, appropriately, was the scene of the recent launching of the light cruiser "Philadelphia"; fifth naval vessel to fly the U. S. flag under that name. Mrs. George H. Earle, III, wife of the governor of Pennsylvania, sponsored the new craft, that is seen here sliding into the water for the first time.

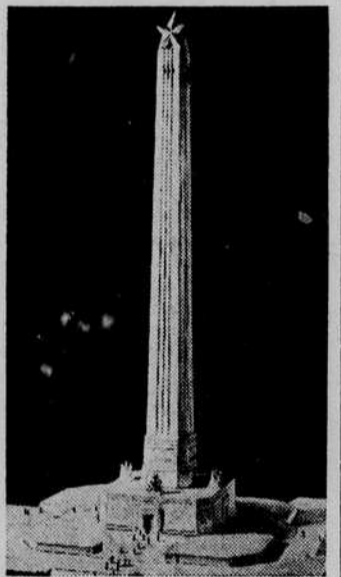
Bathing Suits of Tarpon Scales New Florida Fad

Coincident with the opening of the winter fishing season in Florida, pretty Miss Shirley Stynchcomb, of Asheville, N. C., appeared on Tahiti beach at Miami in her new beach suit made of real silver tarpon scales. Florida winter resorts anticipate one of the largest influxes of visitors this year of any period in the past decade.



Memorial to Heroes of San Jacinto Is Rising in Texas

The San Jacinto Battlefield Memorial building under construction with the aid of Public Works ad-



ministration funds in Houston, Texas. Texas is building the memorial to commemorate the victory which gave Texas its independence.

Sheer Folly
Dumb—Look; the sheep have all had a haircut. Even that old ram. Smart—Yep, shear and shear alike.

Honor Memory of Schumann-Heink

Famous Diva Was Idol of Public

Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, whose recent death at the age of seventy-five brought sorrow to millions of Americans. The famous star of the opera, concert stage, radio and screen had endeared herself to the American people as few public personages. The first appeared before an audience in this country in 1898 in Chicago, where she portrayed the role of "Ortrud" in Wagner's Lohengrin. Her success was immediate and there followed many years of stardom in Wagnerian roles with the Metropolitan Opera company. During the World War, Schumann-Heink experienced the sorrow of having sons fight against each other in the German and American armies, respectively. She sang for the doughboys on the Western Front and made notable contributions to the American case.



American Workers Stage "Stay-In" Strike in Plant

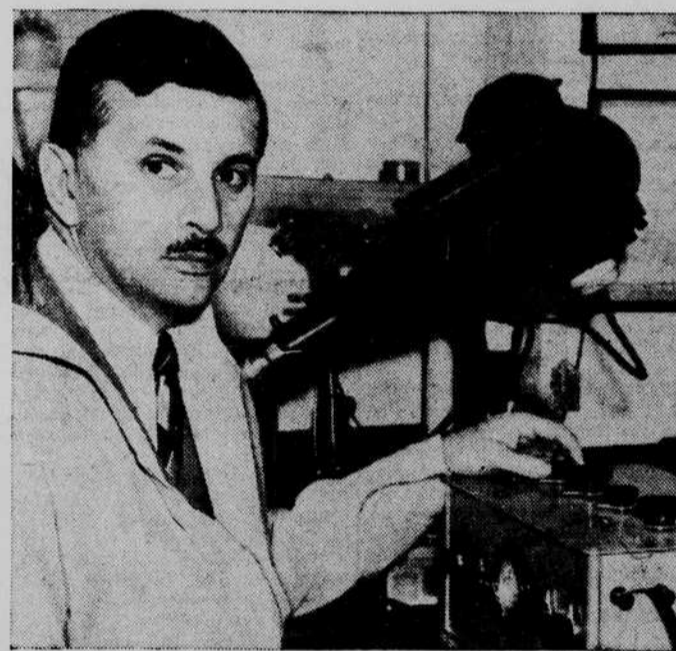


Emulating the example of industrial strikers in France a few months ago, approximately 1,000 workers in an automobile parts plant in South Bend, Ind., held the fort during a recent strike. While the operations of the plant were halted, wives, sweethearts and friends passed food into the workers.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Mounted troops of General Franco's rebel army crossing a bridge on the march on Madrid. 2—Premier Nahas Pasha of Egypt at celebration in honor of the recent Anglo-Egyptian treaty giving further independence to Egypt. 3—General Chiang Kai-Shek, commander in chief of China's land forces as he appeared at National Chinese Boy Scout jamboree.



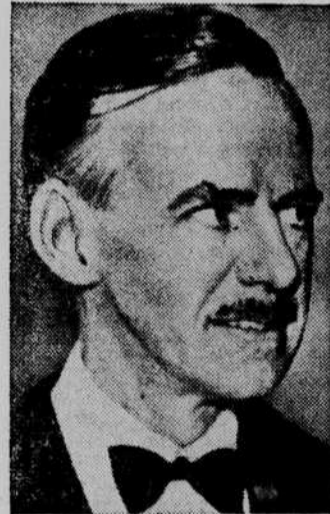
New Meter Devised to Search Out Ills of the Body

Dr. Harold S. Burr of Yale university, shown with the vacuum tube microvoltmeter which he and Dr. Cecil T. Lane and Dr. Leslie F. Nims of Yale perfected. The instrument measures bodily electrical charges as small as five-millionths of a volt. It may prove to be the forerunner of a victorious assault in the war against cancer. The meter indicates the bodily ailments they can be detected by these methods.



Miss Mary C. Duffy, of Newark, N. J., supreme regent of the Catholic Daughters of America, the largest Catholic women's organization in the world. It has 200,000 members in the United States, Canada, Cuba, Porto Rico and Canal Zone, with 35,000 juniors, Catholic girls between the ages of twelve and seventeen, affiliated in junior circles with the parent organization.

Eugene O'Neill Wins Nobel Prize Is Awarded Honor for Distinguished Work in Literature



Eugene O'Neill, playwright, who has been awarded the 1936 Nobel prize in literature. O'Neill's most famous plays are: "The Emperor Jones," "Anna Christie," and "Strange Interlude." Mr. O'Neill is a native New Yorker and noted for blunt realism with which he portrays the lives of his characters. The award, made by the Swedish academy in Stockholm carries a cash prize of approximately \$40,000, with diplomas and medals. The prize for literature is one of five awarded each year for outstanding contributions to learning and to peace. The fund from which the prizes are given was established by the will of Alfred Bernard Nobel, Swedish philanthropist.

Skiers Race Down Mountain in Snowdust Cloud



A striking and beautiful photograph, made in the Bernese Oberland, near Adelbo party of ski experts raced the setting sun down the mountainside. The finely-pow by their runners hangs in the still air like fine smoke or steam.